



Port Security Information Bulletin

PSIB 02-03



Port Security Subcommittee Accomplishments & Summary of COTP Port Security Measures

With the beginning of a new year, it is fitting to review the status of our regional Port Security Subcommittee and the current port security measures. During 2002, the Port Security Subcommittee, chartered in February, has made notable contributions to improving port security in our ports of Houston, Galveston, Texas City, and Freeport. The Port Security Subcommittee has made more progress than any similar body throughout the country. Among the accomplishments are:

- Identification of over 25 official Subcommittee members representing maritime industry and agency stakeholders, members who are actively engaged in monthly meetings and work groups.
- Establishment of port area work groups and task forces that addressed minimum port identification standards, facility security, facility access issues, and security guard requirements.
- Creation of a communications protocol for disseminating threat information to key port stakeholders.
- Co-sponsorship of the Port Security Planning Workshop in Texas City with over 200 participants representing every major maritime interest who provided key planning input to the Coast Guard.
- Significant progress on a port-wide security plan, pacing well ahead of recently legislated deadlines in the Port and Maritime Security Act.

Several measures recommended by the Port Security Subcommittee combined with other measures developed by the Coast Guard have been implemented by the COTP in a piece-wise fashion throughout the year. To ensure that expectations are clear to the port community, the effective measures have been summarized in the attachment included with this PSIB.

I know that improving port security is a goal we all share. We have come a long way **together** in 2002 and I appreciate the support the entire port community has shown. With your continued support, 2003 will bring further necessary improvements to our port security posture. For those of you interested in contributing directly to the Port Security Subcommittee effort, please contact Lieutenant Commander Diane Hauser at 713-671-5145.

KEVIN S. COOK
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port

Enclosed: Summary of COTP Port Security Measures

Attachment to PSIB 02-03

This attachment summarizes the existing heightened port security measures and serves as a reminder to the port stakeholders of these important requirements. The attachment provides information on requirements for waterfront facilities, vessels, security zones, and points of contacts for the U.S. Coast Guard.

Waterfront Facilities

Waterfront facilities located in the Captain of the Port (COTP) Houston-Galveston Zone shall continue to maintain enhanced security measures as identified below until further notice.

Minimum Security Measures

1. Continue to review and update list of persons who are authorized access to the facility.
2. Continue to maintain positive gate control for all shore-side entrances to marine terminals and facility areas.
3. Continue to maintain a security program that includes daily checks of perimeter fences, gates, barriers, and lighting.
4. Continue to restrict vehicle parking from within 100 yards of all moored vessels except for attended vehicles or when the owner/operator remains within immediate vicinity of vehicle.
5. Provide continuous waterfront security at waterfront facilities that transfer oil, chemicals or liquefied hazardous gases. Electronic monitoring in combination with other measures is deemed an acceptable alternative by the COTP.

Minimum Identification Standards: (Identification standards required by the COTP may be upgraded as the threat level increases.)

1. All persons entering a waterfront facility will possess and present upon request to appropriate authority a valid photo ID card. Acceptable forms of identification include, but are not limited to:
 - State Issued Drivers License
 - United States or Foreign Government issued Passport
 - United States of Foreign Merchant Mariners Document
 - ID Card issued by a waterfront facility operator/owner or service provider
 - ID Card issued by a United States Governmental Agency, i.e. Armed Forces Identification Card, or Identification credentials issued to Federal Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies
 - Identification credentials issued to public safety officials (e. g., police, firemen) when acting in their official capacity
2. A verification process must be in place to validate business related or guest activities while on the waterfront facility premises:
 - Vendors, contractors, truck drivers, or visitors should be scheduled in advance.
 - The use of preauthorized access lists are permitted in lieu of the daily schedule requirements. (Vendors, contractors, delivery personnel, or visitors may require escort within the facility when required by the facility.)

Vessels

Reporting Requirements

The requirements for submission of 96-hour Advanced Notice of Arrival (ANOA) notifications remain unchanged. All vessels must submit ANOAs to the National Vessel Movement Center (NVMC), United States Coast Guard, 408 Coast Guard Drive, Kearneysville, W.V., 25430 by:

1. Telephone at 1-800-708-9823;
2. Fax at 1-800-547-8724; or
3. Email at SANS@NVMC.USCG.gov

4-hour Advance Notice of Bunkering within Bolivar Roads Anchorage

The requirement for vessel operators to provide the COTP a 4-hour notice of bunkering prior to anticipated operations remains in affect for all tankers 70,000 DWT or greater under the authority of 33 CFR 156.118. This notice is required for all bunkering conducted within the Bolivar Roads Anchorage defined by 33 CFR 110.197. Persons or vessels making notifications of bunkering within the Bolivar Roads Anchorage must contact “Houston Traffic” via phone at (713) 671-5103 (primary) or VHF FM Channels 5A (secondary).

Anchorage Areas in Bolivar Roads

In conjunction with the heightened port security procedures in place since mid-September 2002, mariners are reminded that the Anchorage Areas in Bolivar Roads are for temporary use by vessels of all types. The complete text of the anchorage regulations for this area is set forth in 33 CFR 110.197.

Mariners should note that in the guidelines set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations specific restrictions apply to vessels using Anchorage Area (A):

- Unless otherwise authorized by the Captain of the Port in Galveston, TX, vessels shall not anchor in Anchorage Area (A) for more than 48 hours.
- No vessel with a draft of less than 22 feet may occupy Anchorage Area (A) without prior approval from the Captain of the Port.
- Anchors shall not be placed in the navigation channel and no portion of the hull or rigging of any anchored vessel shall extend outside the Anchorage Areas.

VTs Houston/Galveston oversees the daily management of vessels within both Bolivar Roads Anchorages. Should a vessel fail to comply with one of the Anchorage restrictions, the VTS Watch Supervisor will contact the operating company or agent and vessel master. If no action is taken in response to this notice, the Captain of the Port will issue an order directing the vessel to move out of Anchorage Area (A).

Security Zones

The COTP established security zones in 2001 that prohibit recreational vessels and are primarily reserved for industrial activities and commercial vessels. Entry into, transit through, fleeting, loitering or anchoring within these areas is prohibited unless authorized by the COTP or his designated representative. The following security zones are in effect:

Houston, TX: The Houston Ship Channel and all associated turning basins, bounded by a line drawn between Houston Ship Channel Light 132 (LLNR-24445) and Houston Ship Channel Light 133 (LLNR-24450) west to the T & N Rail Road Swing Bridge at the entrance to Buffalo Bayou, including all waters adjacent to the ship channel from shoreline to shoreline and the first 200 yards of connecting waterways;

Morgan's Point, TX: The Barbours Cut Ship Channel and Turning Basin containing all waters west of a line drawn between Junction Light "Barbours Cut" latitude 29-41.12N, longitude 94-59.12W (LLNR-23525), and Houston Ship Channel Light 91, latitude 29-41.00N, longitude 94-59.00W (LLNR-23375);

Bayport, TX: The Port of Bayport Ship Channel and Turning Basin containing all waters south of a line drawn from Bayport Ship Channel Light 9 (LLNR-23295) and a western point at latitude 29-36.43'N longitude 095-01.29'W;

Texas City, TX: The Port of Texas City Channel, Turning Basin and Industrial Canal containing all waters bounded by the area south and west of a line drawn between Cut B Inner Range Rear Light (LLNR-24770), and Texas City Channel Light 19 (LLNR-24810);

Freeport, TX: The Old Brazos River Cut, and the Dow Barge Canal containing all waters bounded by its junction with the Intracoastal Waterway by a line drawn between the eastern point at latitude 28-56.45'N longitude 095-18.2'W, and the western point at latitude 28-56.37'N longitude 095-18.33'W.

Cruise Ships: Vessels may enter within 500 yards of a cruise ship but not closer than 100 yards provided they operate at the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course. No person or vessel may enter within 100 yards of a cruise ship unless specifically authorized by the COTP.

Points of Contact for USCG

The following mediums may be used to contact the Coast Guard on the Ports of Houston, Galveston, Texas City and Freeport 24 hours a day. The USCG continues to conduct security patrols within the ports and offshore. Operators are encouraged to report any suspicious activities to MSO Houston-Galveston.

<u>By Phone</u>	Houston-Galveston Comms Watch	(713) 671-5100, Ext. 0
	Air Station Comms Watch	(281) 481-0025, Ext. 0
	Group Galveston Opcen	(409) 766-5620
	FBI Hotline	(713) 693-5000
<u>By VHF</u>	Houston-Galveston Comms Watch	Channel 81A
	Group Galveston Opcen	Channel 16
	VTS Houston Traffic Center	(North of Baytown) Channel 11
		(South of Baytown) Channel 12

The National Response Center (NRC) remains the central point of contact for reporting releases and spills of oil and / or hazardous materials into the nation's waterways as well as radiological, biological, and disease causing releases anywhere in the United States. However, it is also the central contact point for reporting suspected and actual terrorist incidents and or suspicious activities.

The NRC can be reached at **1-800-424-8802**.